Application No.: 09/891822 Docket No.: CXT-073

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for load balanced and fault tolerant aggregation and display of information, said apparatus comprising:
- a first web server receiving a transaction, said transaction comprising a first and second request;
 - a first and second agent server; and
 - a load-balancing module;

wherein the first web server assigns the first request to one of the said first and second agent servers responsive to said load-balancing module and assigns the second request to one of said the other one of the first and second agent servers responsive to the load-balancing module.

- 2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a state server connected to at least one of said first and second agent servers and providing persistent storage for information.
- 3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said state server comprises a relational database.
- 4. (Currenlty Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a second web server, wherein one of said first and second agent servers sends a first request to one of said first and second the web servers responsive to said load-balancing module and sends a second request to one of said first and second the other one of the web servers responsive to said load-balancing module.
- 5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said first web server is in communication with said second web server.
- 6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each agent server comprises a dispatcher for instantiating at least one of an assimilation agent and an integration server.
- 7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a communications module in communications with said first web server, said communications module in communication with a network.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A method for load-balanced and fault tolerant aggregation and display of information in apparatus comprising a web server, a first agent server, a second agent server, and a load-balancing module, said method comprising the steps of:

Application No.: 09/891822 Docket No.: CXT-073

(a) receiving, by a web server, <u>transaction having a first requestand a second</u> request;

(b) assigning, by said web server, said first request to one of a first agent server and a second agent server responsive to a load-balancing module: and

(c)receiving, by said web server, a second request; and

(d)(c) assigning, by said web server, said second request to the other one of said first agent server and said second agent server responsive to said load-balancing module.